

## Terminology for the Database of medieval book fragments (MPO)

A glossary on terms connected to medieval manuscripts is published in *From Manuscripts to Wrappers* (2013) and is also printed below. The glossary is partly based on the glossary published in *Mutilated Books* (2004). Terms in the definitions preceded by an asterisk \* are themselves defined.

Antiphon	short sung text in the Mass and the *Office
Antiphoner	book of chants for the *Office
Book of Hours	book for use in private devotion (livre d'heures)
Breviary	book containing the texts for the *Office
Calendar	the feasts of selected saints commemorated at a particular place or in a diocese, arranged month by month, according to *use
Canon	ecclesiastical decree; member of a cathedral chapter
Canon missae	part of the Mass containing the text for the consecration of the Holy Eucharist
Canon book	book containing the *Canon missae
Canonical hours	Office or daily prayers in a fixed order at determined times: matins, lauds, prime, terce, sext, none, vespers and compline
Canon Law	the legal system of the Roman Catholic Church
Canticle	(little) song or chant, especially a song of praise from the Bible
Cantus sororum	'the chants of the sisters', the weekly liturgy of the Birgittine sisters
Catchword	a word written at the end of a *quire that repeats the first word on the following page to facilitate the arrangement of the quires
Church Slavonic	the liturgical language of the Russian Orthodox Church
Collectar	book containing the prayers for the *Canonical hours
Colophon	a note, usually short and usually at the end of a text, containing information about the production of the

	manuscript in which it occurs, often naming its scribe and less often its patron
Commentary	a discussion or expansion of a biblical, *patristic or legal text
Common of Saints	Commune sanctorum, texts for saints not accorded individual texts in the *Sanctorale or *Temporale
Decretals	parts of *Canon law or collections of papal decrees
Epistolary	book containing the Epistle readings for the Mass
Evangelary	books containing the Gospel readings for the Mass
Explicit	a note, sometimes decoratively treated and sometimes in colour(s), recording the end of the preceding text
Feast	feast of a saint occurring in a *calendar
Foliation	consecutive numbering of the leaves of a book
Gloss (Glossa)	commentary on a main text
Glossed	text supplied with *glosses
Gospel book	see Evangelary
Gothic notation	late medieval form of musical notation on lines
Gradual	book of chants for the Mass; chant in the Mass
Homiliary	book containing sermons
Hymn	non-Biblical song, used mostly in the *canonical hours
Hymnal	book containing *hymns
Illumination	the decoration of a manuscript (initials and miniatures) in gold and colours
Incipit	a note, sometimes decoratively treated and sometimes in colour(s), recording the beginning of the following text
Incunabula	printed book produced before 1501

Kyriale	part of a *gradual containing the *ordinary chants of the mass
Lectionary	book containing biblical and patristic excerpts for readings aloud in the liturgy
Legendary	the lives of selected saints arranged in order of their feast days throughout the year, also known as a passionale
Litany	series of prayers addressed to the Trinity, the Virgin, angels, apostles, martyrs etc.
Lombard	an enlarged capital letter, usually in colour
Manual	book for the clergy for ministering the sacraments
Martyrology	the lives of selected martyrs arranged in order of their feast days throughout the year
Miniature	an independent illustration, as opposed to an initial
Missal	the main liturgical book for the Mass containing all necessary texts
Motet	medieval polyphonic song genre
Necrology	see *Obituary
Neumes	early forms of musical notation made without stave lines
Obituary	book with notes recording deceased persons, also called necrology
Octave	the eighth day after a feast of a saint in a *calendar
Office	see *Canonical hours
Officiale	liturgical book in general, sometimes a *breviary or a *gradual
Ordinal	a guide to the celebration of the liturgy, also called Liber ordinarius
Ordinary of the mass	Ordinarium missae, the fixed elements of the Mass; the section of a liturgical book containing these texts
Pagination	consecutive numbering of pages

Passionale	see Legendary
Patristic	works written by church Fathers or other early christian writers
Pecia	part, piece or gathering with approved text, intended as an exemplar from which to make further copies
Pen-flourishing	graceful decoration executed with a pen
Pontifical	book containing texts for sacraments administered exclusively by popes or bishops
Postil	commentary; collection of sermons
Prayer book	see Book of Hours
Prebend	revenue of cathedral church granted to canons as a stipend
Prebendary	holder of *prebend
Pricking	marking of a folio by a point or knife to guide ruling
Processional	book containing songs common during processions
Psalter	book containing the Book of Psalms in the Bible
Quire	gathering or booklet of which a book is formed
Rhymed office	collection of rhymed chants for the *canonical hours
Ritual	see Manual
Rubric	title, chapter heading or instruction, frequently in colour(s), to guide readers through a text
Rubricator	person responsible for supplying the rubrics in a manuscript
Ruling	the horizontal lines on a leaf to guide scribes in writing
Running title	a line of text at the head of a leaf identifying the title of a work or one of its sections
Sacramentary	book containing prayers recited during the Mass

Sanctorale	celebration of saints' feasts, also known as the Proper of Saints or Proprium de sanctis; section of a liturgical book containing these texts
Sequence	poetic song genre in the Mass
Sequentiary	book or section of a book containing *sequences
Square notation	late medieval form of musical notation on stave lines
Summa	theological or legal hand book arranged in the form of arguments and counter-arguments
Translation	the day of removal of a the relics of a saints in a *calendar
Trope	poetic song genre in the Mass and the *Canonical hours
Temporale	celebration of christological feasts, including Christmas, Easter, Ascension and Pentecost, also known as Proprium de tempore; section of a liturgical book containing these texts
Use	a liturgy practised in a particular geographical region or by a particular group of people
Votive mass	mass for particular occasions